

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1116

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 7393

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN DOMESTIC COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE:
STATUS REPORT

REF: BRASILIA 3693

1. EMBOFF MET AUGUST 21 WITH REINHARD STEMMINGER WHOSE FIRM, INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTING, LTD. (WASHINGTON, D.C.), ACTING AS CONSULTANTS TO MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS/EMBRATEL THE DOMESTIC COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE (DCS) SYSTEM (SEE REFTEL). STAMMINGER SAID DCS WORKING GROUP (DCS/WG) WOULD HAVE PLANS READY FOR PRESENTATION TO MINISTRY BY OCTOBER AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED. MINISTRY WOULD STUDY AND APPROVE PLANS BY JANUARY 1976 AT WHICH TIME REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS AND PRICES FOR SATELLITES AND GROUND STATIONS WOULD BE ISSUED. PROPOSALS WOULD THEN BE REVIEWED AND CONTRACTS AWARDED BY APRIL-MAY. FIRST GROUND STATIONS WOULD BE OPERATIONAL AND SATELLITE LAUNCHED BY END OF 1978. TOTAL COSTS FOR ENTIRE DCS PROJECT PRESENTLY EXTIMATED AT US\$150 MILLION.

2. STAMMINGER SAID GOB WOULD PURCHASE ESTIMATED 50 GROUND STATIONS IN THREE PHASES: APPROXIMATELY HALF IN 1978 WITH REST IN 1980 AND 1983. GOB OBJECTIVE IS TO ACQUIRE COMPONENT TECHNOLOGY WITH FIRST GROUP OF GROUND STATIONS THUS ALLOWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEM TO CONSTRUCT AND EQUIP LATERSTATIONS ON THEIR OWN AS MUCH

AS POSSIBLE. RE SATELLITES, GOB WILL ACCEPT PROPOSALS ONLY
FROM FIRMS WHICH HAVE PRODUCED SUCCESSFULLY PROVEN SATELLITES.
ACCORDING TO STAMMINGER THIS LIMITS US POSSIBILITIES TO HUGHES,
RCA, AND PHILCO.

3. (FYI: STAMMINGER ADDED THAT PHILCO, IN ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE
DCS/WG OF ADVANTAGES OF ITS SATELLITE, WHICH GEARED MORE
TO MILITARY FREQUENCY BANDS THAN COMMERCIAL FREQUENCIES-- HAD
MADE OVERTURES ALONG THESE LINES TO BRAZILIAN MILITARY SUGGESTING,
IN EFFECT, THEY USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO PERSUADE DCS/WG.
WG HEAD, BENJAMIN HIMMELGREN, HOWEVER, TOOK OFFENSE AT THIS
EFFORT AND HAS CONSEQUENTLY ORDERED WG MEMBERS NOT TO REVEAL
FURTHER DETAILS OF DCS PLANS UNTIL NECESSARY. STAMMINGER
ACCORDINGLY DECLINED TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR DCS MATRIX (EXACT
NUMBER AND SITES OF GROUND STATIONS AND NUMBER OF COMMUNICATIONS
CHANNELS AMONG THEM). RE MILITARY APPLICATIONS OF DCS, HOWEVER,
STAMMINGER DID SAY AIR FORCE HAD DEFINITE REQUIREMENTS,
ARMY HAD A FEW, AND NAVY NONE. END FYI)
CRIMMINS

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